

Contact: Mary-Hope Vass
Public Information Officer
Harrisonburg Police Department
Office Phone 540-437-2618
www.harrisonburgva.gov/police

News Release

National School Bus Safety Week

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The Harrisonburg Police Department reminds motorists to watch for school buses throughout the school year, but especially this week.

Oct. 17 through Oct. 21 serves as National School Bus Safety Week and this year's theme is "Be Aware-Know the Danger Zone."

It is important to teach children the blind spots and "danger zones" of getting on and off of a school bus. The areas directly in front of and behind the bus can be blind spots for the bus driver. Children should make eye contact with the bus driver before getting on the bus.

Tips for motorists:

- Always be alert and watch for children walking to and waiting at bus stops
- Be sure to go the appropriate speed in school zones
- Slow down once the bus lights begin flashing yellow
- Never pass a stopped school bus with red flashing lights.

"We want to see children safely begin and safely end their school day," said Mary-Hope Vass, HPD's Public Information Officer. "Our goal is to remind motorists to use caution at times when children could be getting on and off of a bus."

To learn additional information about school bus safety, please visit www.nhtsa.gov/School-Buses.